

On the Western Front



ARRIVING AT KEATS ISLAND BAPTIST CAMP, B.C.

GENERAL SECRETARY
SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME MISSIONS
AND EVANGELISM
DIRECTOR OF CHURCH SCHOOL AND
YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

REV. W. C. SMALLEY
REV. J. A. MACRAE
REV. T. B. McDORMAND

The Baptist Union of Western Canada
207 Empire Building :: Edmonton, Alta.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

	Number of Churches	Membership Apr. 30, 1941	Baptisms May 1, 1940	Number of Church Schools	Enrollment Apr. 30, 1941	Number R.Y.P.U. Societies	Membership Apr. 30, 1941	MEMBERSHIP			Total for Budget	Grand Total	Forward Movement
								M.C.	L.A.	M.B.			
Brandon - Swan River Association	16	927	34	17	825	13	294	157	137	161	\$ 2,181.36	\$ 14,843.79	\$ 249.24
Red River Valley Association	13	2091	64	19	1326	14	363	416	401	158	5,933.81	37,464.73	1,119.09
Northern Saskatchewan Association	14	1159	50	21	1210	16	337	271	138	149	2,641.39	18,280.62	1,144.44
Southern Saskatchewan Association	13	1929	76	13	1451	11	383	269	301	178	3,713.74	24,836.33	727.05
Calgary - Leithbridge Association	14	2780	122	17	2333	11	270	443	126	286	10,291.60	46,735.33	5,470.00
Edmonton Peace River Association	15	2036	74	30	2163	17	279	498	147	274	6,965.10	32,043.53	3,109.84
British Columbia Convention	30	3951	156	33	3312	25	491	4239	269	122	15,758.91	86,256.01	3,918.17
Swedish Conferences	14	899	37	Included in Association	"	"	"	"	"	"	1,440.70	"	53.50
Russo-Ukrainian Conference	17	659	43	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1,168.17	"	630.56
Norwegian	3	93	4	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	15.00	"	"
Hungarian Conference	5	178	10	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	878.53	"	168.76
Czecho-Slovakian	2	202	5	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Incl. in Assc.	"	Incl. in Assc.
													80.00
													(Individuals)
Sub-Total	156	16,914	675	150	12,620	107	2,417	3293	1519	1328	\$50,888.31	\$260,460.34	\$16,700.65
German Conference	44	5,460	192	63	4,228	39	1,248						
Totals	200	22,394	867	213	16,848	146	3,665						

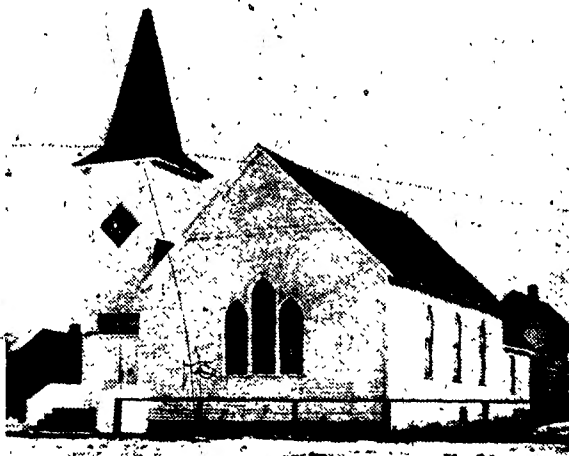
ON THE WESTERN FRONT

By W. C. SMALLEY

The General Secretary's Report, read before the Baptist Union Convention in Regina in June, 1941, opened with the following paragraph:

In presenting this, the twelfth annual report of the present General Secretary, we realize that the year under review has been one of deep shadow. In international affairs we have seen the complete collapse of France, the invasion of the Balkans, the overwhelming of Greece after months of the most heroic resistance, and today the war drags on its weary way. The British Empire, aided by the moral and material support of the Government of the United States of America, and the lesser though none the less welcome assistance of the exiled Governments of occupied countries which, though conquered, refuse to die, stands, head up, facing the enemy in splendid isolation, the sole militant defender of the democratic way of life. The war has darkened all the activities of the past year. It takes its increasing toll of our financial resources. Our churches have seen many of their best young men march away, and some of our pastors have temporarily left their pulpits to minister to the spiritual needs of the men of our fighting forces. In the shadow of war we have carried on the work of the Christian Church. Our efforts have not been in vain, for the year records much that is heartening, and that makes for abiding strength.

In the nearly thirteen years of our service as General Secretary it has not been given to us to enjoy a year which was not overshadowed by some major difficulty or disaster. Nineteen hundred



EBENEZER CHURCH, WETASKIWIN, BEFORE ALTERATION

and twenty-nine saw the stock crash with its subsequent unprecedented depression. This was followed by a long period of almost complete drought, and before there were any signs of real recovery, came 1939 and the War. Even so, we would dwell not upon our disasters but upon our achievements, and repeat: "In the shadow of war we have carried on the work of the Christian Church. Our efforts have not been in vain, for the year records much that is heartening, and that makes for abiding strength."

EBENEZER CHURCH, WETASKIWIN, AFTER ALTERATION, 1941



Note that the tower has been removed and rebuilt in a different position; the new wing has been added, also full basement foundation, and the church has been stuccoed—and it is free of debt.

Material Progress

In the period referred to, adverse circumstances notwithstanding, not less than thirty-five church buildings and three parsonages have been erected or acquired. Of these, twenty-four churches and the three parsonages have been built; ten church buildings were bought and one acquired by gift. In addition, thirteen other church buildings have undergone major alterations and extensive enlargement, making a total of fifty-one building operations at a conservatively estimated expenditure of well over \$100,000. We give grateful thanks to the Missionary Education Councils of Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa for their liberal assistance in some of these enterprises.

In the time under review there have been also extensive additions to the buildings on the two denominationally owned Camp sites, at Keats Island, B.C., and McLaurin Beach, Gull Lake, Alberta.

Spiritual Progress

It is impossible to tabulate spiritual results or enumerate all the blessings received at the Father's hand. And yet there are some indications of spiritual progress which may be set forth. In the past twelve years, twenty-four churches have been organized. Of these, eight are Canadian, three Swedish, eight Ukrainian, two Norwegian, one Hungarian and two Czecho-Slovakian.

In the past twelve years there have been 6,311 additions to our Canadian Baptist churches by baptism, and 1,673 to our non-English churches. This figure is exclusive of the German Baptists, for which churches we have no figures prior to 1933. For the eight years since 1933 there were 1,914 additions to the German Baptist churches by baptism, or a grand total of 9,898. Had we the German figures for the first four years of the period, the number of baptisms would be close

ROUND LAKE SWEDISH Y.P. CAMP, SASKATCHEWAN



Note the marquee tent in which this fine group of young people hold their meetings. Our Swedish young people are known for their proficiency on stringed instruments. Rev. D. M. Anderson, General Missionary, is in the centre of the front row.

to 11,00. Notwithstanding this steady increase by baptism, there has been a net increase in our members of only 105 since 1930. While this state of affairs is serious, the wonder is that there has been any increase at all. The period under review has been a period of shifting population. When the drought was at its worst, migration west and north was general, and many of our people left for new areas where there were no churches. In more recent years there has been a movement toward the industrial East where jobs might be available. The Census returns for 1941 show that in the last ten years Manitoba's population has increased by 22,308, Saskatchewan's has decreased by 34,038, Alberta has increased by 56,793, and British Columbia by 114,940. These figures are reflected in our comparative church memberships.

During the last two or three years incident to the Forward Movement, a determined effort has been made to get an accurate estimate of our numerical strength and consolidate our position. Church rolls have been carefully examined and revised. Though this

RED DEER LAKE, SWEDISH Y.P. CAMP, ALBERTA



The problem of serving meals to large crowds has been solved, as you notice, by the introduction of the cafeteria plan. This camp serves the Alberta Swedish Baptist Conference.

has led to a loss of membership in some of our churches, it has by no means weakened our cause in general. The present membership of our churches, not including the German churches, is 16,901.

The Forward Movement

In an effort to stimulate evangelism in the churches, to increase the effectiveness of the worship services, and to deepen the spiritual life of our membership, the Forward Movement was launched. Its benefits have been decidedly felt in every church where it has been seriously undertaken; attendance at church services has increased, and the spirit of evangelism has been quickened. This is also true of the financial aspects of the Movement. Dr. Archibald of First Church, Calgary, said recently, "The experience of churches now contributing to the Forward Movement show that home expense funds and mission moneys are both coming easier than last year. Here at First Church, Calgary, current expenses and missions are both ahead of last year, and we have paid over \$3,000 to the Forward Movement. People do have the money—it is only a matter of where they are going to release it." The financial aspects of the Movement are timed to mature Dec. 31st, 1943.

The Swedish Conferences

Swedish work in Western Canada is divided into two Conferences. The Central Conference includes churches in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and the extreme western end of Ontario, as far as Port Arthur. There are eight churches in the Alberta Conference. An important department of this work is the Bible Academy at Wetaskiwin, giving young people in the winter a five-month course in Bible, music, and other subjects of importance to lay workers in the churches, organizing evangelistic teams which visit nearby districts, and sending many young men on for further training for the ministry. There are also two Young People's Assemblies in the summer, at Round Lake in Saskatchewan and Red Deer Lake in Alberta. All of this work is carried on by nine pastors and a General Missionary, the Rev. D. M. Anderson. Mr. Leonard Hultgren, student pastor of the Kipling church, Saskatchewan, gave up his field in order to attend McMaster University.

Swedish work has made a definite advance in Wetaskiwin. The church building has been remodelled, and enlarged to about double its former seating capacity. There is a fine social hall in the basement and a large prayer room behind. The alterations have thus far been financed by the local Church, which works on a policy of pay as you go. The whole building has recently been stuccoed.

Swedish work has suffered a heavy loss by the death of two of our highly esteemed and much beloved pastors, the Rev. C. Axel Johnson of Winnipeg, and the Rev. G. S. Fryklind of Midale. The passing of two such earnest and effective workers, seemingly at the height of their powers, is difficult to understand, and leaves gaps hard to fill.

MIDALE SUNDAY SCHOOL, SASKATCHEWAN



This church was for years in the heart of the drought area; it is the largest Swedish Baptist Church in the West. Rev. G. S. Fryklind, whose death is so deeply felt, is in the second row, at the left.

Our Norwegian Missionaries

There are three Norwegian missionaries working in the west, one in each of the Prairie Provinces. The Rev. C. N. D. Stabell, for more than twelve years missionary in Saskatchewan, has moved to Winnipeg and is happily settled. He will have charge of the work at Teulon and East Braintree in addition to his church in Winnipeg.

Before leaving Saskatchewan, Mr. Stabell was instrumental in organizing a church at Brancepeth, in 1933. Under the pastoral supervision of the Rev. E. Sivertsen, a fine church building and parsonage have been erected, and the field has become self supporting. Mr. Sivertsen has recently returned to the United States and the people are looking for another pastor.

The third missionary is the Rev. John Simpsen of Valhalla Centre in the Peace River country of Alberta. The Valhalla church was organized by Mr. Simpsen in 1933. Here, as at Brancepeth, a church building and parsonage have been erected. Mr. and Mrs. Simpsen enjoy the confidence of the residents in a large area. In addition to Valhalla there are three or four other appointments.

In the Fall of 1938 we visited Mr. and Mrs. Simpsen. We found them in their comfortable though lonely little home far out on the

snow-covered prairie. Joyfully we were received, and we were quickly given to understand that our visit was a God-send. The conversation was animated and the moments fled all too quickly. In fact it was soon quite late. There was a wistful note in Mrs. Simpson's voice as in reply to our question as to how she liked it in the North she said that she had always lived in large cities before coming



BAPTISM SCENE IN THE PEACE RIVER COUNTRY

Baptism scene near Valhalla, 430 miles north west of Edmonton. Rev. John Simpson officiating. Many of the people in this area, having left their farms in the south, are facing pioneer conditions for the second time.

to Alberta—Oslo, New York, San Francisco, Bellingham, Winnipeg, and now the wide open spaces of the prairies. Many and great are the changes that missionaries and their wives must make for Christ's sake and the gospel's. It was past ten o'clock when we rose to go, after having made arrangements for the services on the coming Sunday. Did you ever try to get out of a Scandinavian friend's home without drinking coffee? It just cannot be done. But one of the student missionaries sent by the Norwegian Conference of America to assist Mr. Simpson for a month or so recently, reported that many of these people, newly moved to the area from formerly prosperous farms in Saskatchewan, are so poor that they cannot even afford to buy coffee!

Ukrainian Advance in the West

There are many things of interest and importance which might be written regarding this department of our work. We have suffered a great loss in the removal of the Rev. Ivan Kmetya to Los Angeles, but rejoice that the Rev. Carl Derenchuk, B.A., a graduate in Theology of Gordon Theological College, Boston, and a young man with previous western experience, has taken over the work at Sas-



ROUND VALLEY—FORMERLY TOMAHAWK

This is the Ukrainian church to which the five women drove all through the night, and in which the services were held through the rainstorm.

katoon, and district. A fine new property has been acquired in Saskatoon, and it is confidently expected that this will increase the effectiveness of the Church.

Our missionaries are Rev. E. Diduk and Pastor Wm. Kuziw in Alberta; Rev. C. Derenchuk and Pastor P. Zinkiw in Saskatchewan, the Rev. Peter Kindrat and Pastor Eli Shakotko in Manitoba. It is expected that the Rev. Ivan Shakotko, pioneer Ukrainian missionary, will spend nine months in the West this year. Two student missionaries who served our fields during the summer of 1940, will graduate this spring from Wheaton College. We are anxious that funds may be provided so that we may be able to invite them to help in our large and growing Russo-Ukrainian work. The following quotation from The Western Baptist gives some idea of recent developments:

FRANCHERE UKRAINIAN CHURCH



Congregation entering the new building after the church has been declared open. This is in north-eastern Alberta, about 150 miles from Edmonton.

Our missionaries, Kindrat, Diduk and Kuziw then visited Rochfort Bridge, northwest of Edmonton. Some time ago we secured a plot of ground from the government and also a permit to cut lumber for a church building. Much work was done and the day set for erection of the building to commence. On the appointed day, when the men gathered, they found instead of five piles of lumber, five piles of ashes.

With true Christian persistence a second permit was secured, and again the lumber is on the ground and the little company of believers hope to have a church building all their own. Services were held in the school house until evening when, there being no means of securing light, the evening service was held out doors, mosquitoes notwithstanding. Services were continued throughout the following day (Sunday) and concluded with the ordinance of the Lord's Supper. Souls were touched and the people are looking forward to the completion of their church building.

Some thirty-seven miles in a southwesterly direction lies the Tomahawk district. Here a Ukrainian Baptist Church has been in existence for about eight years and is now known as the Round Valley Baptist Church. The missionaries held

services from Friday, July 18th to Monday, July 21st, inclusive. On Friday the audience was mostly local. Visitors travelling with horses through the night began to arrive on Saturday. Early in the morning five women and two small boys drove up to the church in a wagon drawn by work horses. They had come from Rochfort Bridge and had travelled through rough bush country, taking all night to cover the thirty-seven miles. One man walked twenty-eight miles to be present. So many people came that accommodation for miles around was at a premium. The missionaries slept on straw spread out on the church floor. On Saturday, Mr. Kuziw and Mr. Diduk led the devotional services while Mr. Kindrat gave a series of addresses on the "Holy Spirit, His Gifts, and His Work."

Sunday was a great day beginning with a prayer service at 10 o'clock, followed by the ordinance of the Lord's Supper. Then came the morning service from 11 o'clock until 1 o'clock. For this service the church was packed and many stood outside listening to the message through the open windows. The women of the church served lunch to about three hundred people.



The congregation at Franchere on a later Sunday. The Missionary, Rev. E. Diduk, is at the extreme right.

The afternoon service was for young people. It opened with a short programme given by a group of local young people under the leadership of Mr. T. Pastushok. An impressive feature of the afternoon service was the dedication of a child. Then followed a gospel address and an appeal to which six young people responded giving their hearts to Christ.

Monday our missionaries spent visiting the homes of the district and interviewing many inquirers. Just before the time for the evening service a heavy rain storm broke. This kept many away and those who did arrive were drenched. A fire was lighted in the church and wet clothes were dried. The service started late, but as the rain persisted, and the people could not start for home, it was continued until midnight. Toward the close five girls came forward seeking the way of salvation. Thus ended a happy and successful conference at Round Valley.

The following week end was spent in Franchere. Friday and Saturday were spent in Bible Conferences. On Saturday our missionaries were assisted by Pastor Hugh Campbell of Lavoy.

Sunday, July 27th, was the day appointed for the dedication of the new church building. By 11 o'clock a large crowd had gathered before the closed door of the church. After a hymn had been sung the Rev. P. Kindrat read the Scripture and led in prayer then delivered a brief address on the "Open Door." Then the door was opened and the crowd singing a hymn passed into the church. During the service which concluded with the Lord's Supper a pulpit Bible, the gift of the

FOXFORD UKRAINIAN CHURCH, SASKATCHEWAN

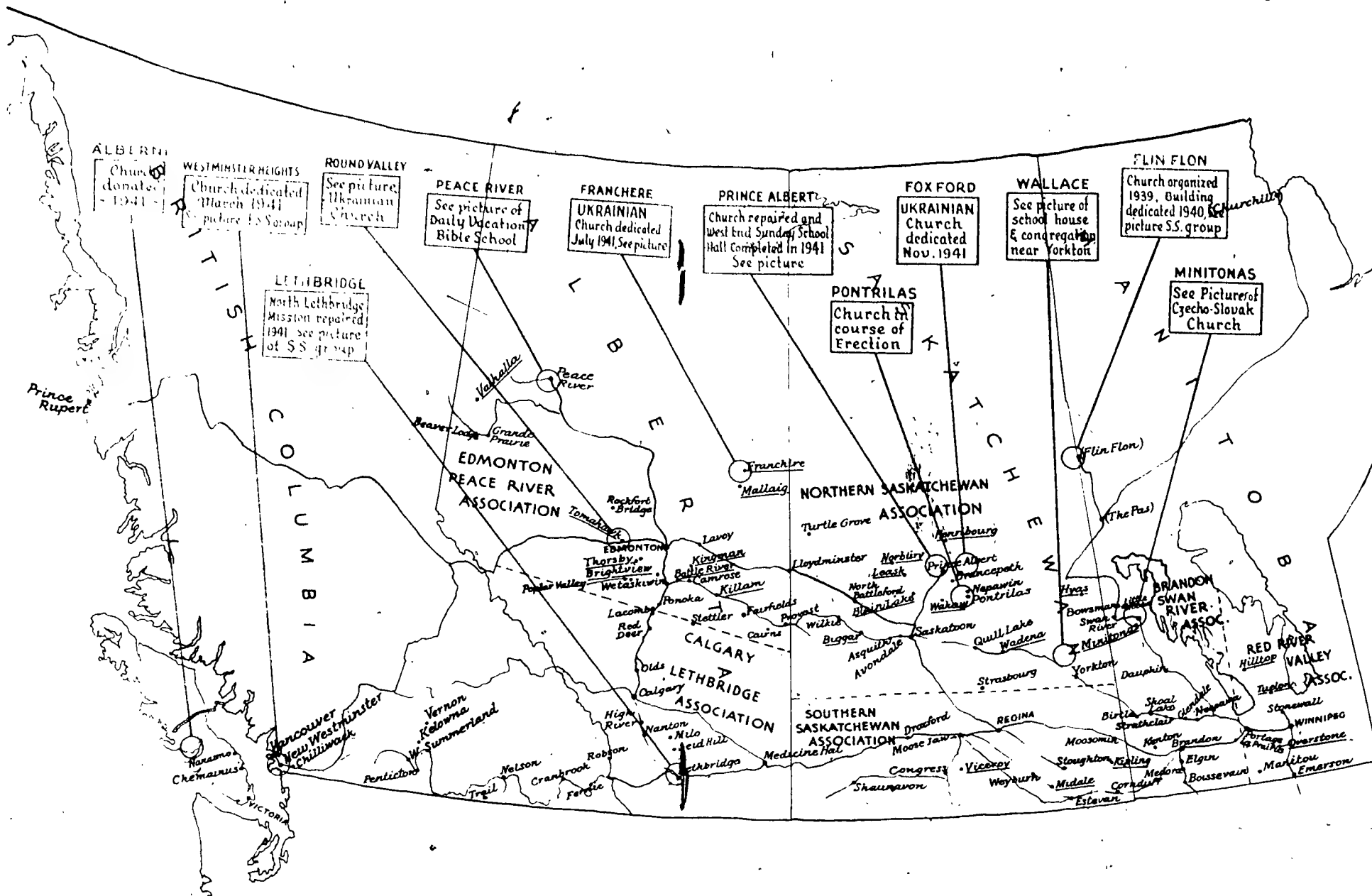


The eight adults in this picture were baptized June 9, 1940, by Rev. Peter Kindrat. These formed the nucleus around which the church was organized. The church building was finished and dedicated November 9, 1941.

British and Foreign Bible Society, was presented and Mr. Kindrat spoke of how the Ukrainian Bible came into being. At the afternoon service many came forward to express their joy for the church and give their testimony. Franchere offers a wide open door for the gospel. The newly dedicated building is the only one in the village or the district.

On a subsequent occasion an offering was taken for the building fund of the church. Here is a list of some of the gifts brought. One two-year-old steer, three turkeys, one lamb, one sack of flour, three gifts of two dollars each, one of a dollar and a half, and another of one dollar, besides many of smaller coins. It is just like pioneer days. They are pioneer days and this is a pioneer country. Calmar, thirty miles south-west of Edmonton, Franchere, one hundred and forty miles north-east of Edmonton, Rochfort Bridge, seventy-five miles north-west, Round Valley, about eighty miles south-west of Edmonton are just a part of the wide field the Rev. E. Diduk has under his care.

On Sunday, November 9th, a new church building was dedicated at Foxford, about forty miles north-east of Prince Albert. The services were led by Rev. Peter Kindrat and Mr. P. Zinkiw. In the afternoon the Rev. Gerald Ward and the Prince Albert Baptist Church choir were in attendance and brought message in word and song. Much could be said about the efforts of the local people in making the building possible.



The building is made of logs and is the result of many days of labor by the men of the church. Two women did all the plastering both inside and out of the building. For the winter the work here will be under the direction of Mr. P. Zinkiw, a graduate of the International Bible College, East Orange, New Jersey, and formerly one of our regular missionaries.

CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA, "DIM EVANGELI," SASKATOON



A group from the Russo-Ukrainian Baptist Church, Saskatoon, taking part in the periodical radio broadcast services. This is the only group broadcasting the Gospel to the Ukrainians in Canada. The Lord is blessing this radio ministry.

Hungarian Work

Five Hungarian churches and three mission stations, all in Saskatchewan, comprise our Hungarian work. This does not nearly meet the need or discharge our opportunity, but these eight points more than tax the two missionaries we are able to support. The Rev. John Monus of Leask is in charge of the north. The Leask church was organized over twenty years ago; its present membership is 66. Of this church, the Rev. T. B. McDormand writes:

In the first place the whole community goes to church! Men, women and children fill this rural church building to capacity. While I was there the roads were still "snowbound" and the people came in sleigh "caboozes", the modern winter version of the "prairie schooner"! Then again, these brethren of ours are intensely worshipful. When they enter the church they seat themselves quietly and obviously realize that "this is the day that the Lord has made," and that this is "the place where His honor dwelleth." And their singing lifts one's heart and mind to lofty places. The congregation was fully half composed of men, and all knew how to sing! They sing with exactly right time, and the various "parts" are heard in the finest harmony. A large choir, led by the brother of Rev. George Balla, Hungarian Baptist Pastor in Toronto, sang two anthems splendidly.

Two facts help largely to account for the fine spirit of this church. They are mighty in prayer. During the Sunday morning service a period of prayer was announced and several

led reverently, and with deep fervor. At one point after an announcement the whole group prayed audibly together, each in his own words, and yet with voices subdued with reverence. Then again, a number of the men and young men of the church are capable of conducting an entire service, and in the absence of the pastor, Rev. John Monus, on missionary work in other communities, these men take their turns. They are heard with the utmost attentiveness and respect.



BEKEVAR, KIPLING, HUNGARIAN CHURCH

About eight miles from Kipling, on the bald prairie. The people come from miles around to attend this church. Rev. G. Mento is the present Pastor and Missionary.

The Rev. G. Mento is pastor of the church at Bekevar, near Kipling. This church has a membership of 74. Mr. Mento has undertaken the publishing of a small monthly paper in the Hungarian language. The Hungarian Baptists are known for their loyalty to their church and to the Baptist Union. Last year they exceeded their missionary objective of \$850 by \$28.53, as well as subscribing generously to the Forward Movement fund.

Both the Leask and the Kipling churches have students for the ministry attending McMaster University, in the persons of Mr. Albert Monus, son of the Rev. John Monus of Leask, and Mr. William Molnar of Kipling. It is our earnest desire that funds may be forthcoming to keep these two young men employed among their own people, so that our Hungarian work may be extended in the West.

A GROUP OF CZECH BAPTISTS READY TO LEAVE HOME



This group is leaving Czecho-Slovakia for Canada. According to Mr. Frank Dojacek a Czech Baptist business man who has greatly interested himself in the welfare of his people in the West, "these are now settled on farms near Minitonas and enjoying Canadian liberty."

Czecho-Slovak Churches

First reference to Czecho-Slovakian work in our records appears in the 1930 Year Book, and reveals that the Winnipeg Sunday School Council contributed \$381.69 to support a Czech missionary. In 1931 the Year Book reports two Czech churches, one in Winnipeg (Bethlehem) with 24 members and 14 baptisms, and one at Minitonas with 68 members and 14 baptisms. The missionaries were Rev. V. Vojta and Mrs. K. Hudaczek. The 1941 Year Book reports Bethlehem church with 57 members and 4 baptisms, and Minitonas with 123 members. In addition to this there are six other settlements, four in Manitoba and two in Saskatchewan, visited regularly by our present missionaries, the Rev. J. Zajicek and the Rev. Louis Miksa.

FIRST CZECHO-SLOVAK BAPTIST CHURCH OF CANADA, AT MINITONAS, MAN.



Note the neat building and picket fence. Directly across the street from this church stands the seven room Parsonage. About 100 yards down the street to the right is the German Baptist Church, with the German Parsonage between the two churches. Immediately opposite the German Baptist Church is the Russo-Ukrainian Baptist Church. The German work has grown so that a project is on foot to move the present building about eight miles into the country and build a larger church for the accommodation of the German Baptists of the area. These three buildings are necessary at present because of the language difficulty, many of the people having so recently come from Europe.

In Winnipeg under the leadership of Mr. Zajicek the church building has been completely renovated, inside and out, and is a beautiful building, a credit to the denomination. In Minitonas, not only has a new church been built, and completed even to the building of a picket fence around the property, all of which is painted (a not too common thing among Western churches) but land has been acquired directly across the street and a seven-room parsonage built and beautified. All this property is fully paid for.

The present pastor is the Rev. Louis Miksa. Mr. Miksa was until 1939 pastor of the Baptist Church at Lodz, Poland. He came to this continent to attend the Baptist World Congress as Poland's representative on the Executive of that body. The outbreak of war made it impossible for him to return home. After a year spent in the study

of the English language he accepted an offer to come to Minitonas. Though not a Czech, he speaks the Czech and Slovak languages and is now settled as pastor and doing very acceptable work. His wide experience as teacher, preacher and pastor in Europe makes him a very valuable acquisition to our missionary force.

We visited this field last October and spoke to a congregation which filled the church in every part. The music was led by a band of over twenty pieces. It may be that the way is being opened for the Union to undertake work among the Polish people of Canada.

CZECHO-SLOVAK GROUP, 1940



Candidates for baptism, in the Czech-Slovak church at Minitonas, wearing the traditional baptismal gowns of their country. The officiating minister is the Rv. J. Zajicek.

Opportunities

That Baptist work in Western Canada presents great opportunities for service among the children can readily be seen by the five Sunday School groups presented here. Groups of children like these are being gathered in all our cities and towns, and many of our rural areas.

WESTMINSTER HEIGHTS SUNDAY SCHOOL, NEAR NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.

The church was organized here in March, 1941. There are 115 on the roll of this school. The Superintendent is Captain J. W. Blakeney.



The groups illustrated are chosen because they are so widely distant from one another, as a glance at the map will show. There is another reason for their selection. Each represents a forward move. At Westminster Heights a church was organized in March, 1941. The building at Lethbridge was renovated in 1941, and Prince Albert West End Mission was completed and stuccoed, also in 1941.

DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, PEACE RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH



Many of the children in the neighborhood joined our Baptist children in this school, which is similar to many held in towns and rural areas, as well as in the cities, under the direction of Pastors and Sunday School Superintendents.

Flin Flon constitutes a challenge of a special type for workers in a prairie province, since it is one of our very few purely industrial centres. Since the organization of the church in 1939, with 21 members, 5 of whom had been recently baptized, the work has moved forward despite the fact that, almost immediately after organization, the church lost five members by removal. The first year five were baptized, and last year three. The present membership is 24; the Sunday School has an enrolment of 80, with an average attendance of 67, and a Cradle Roll of 20. At present the church is being admirably served by the Rev. Christopher Burnett and his wife. Flin Flon is the third largest city in Manitoba, with a population of about 8,000; it is a mining centre and offers a large opportunity to an experienced missionary-minded pastor.

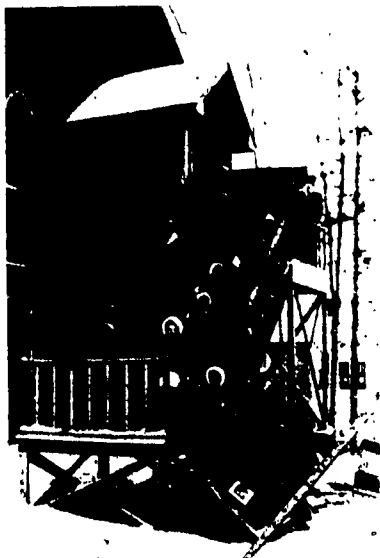


NORTH LETHBRIDGE MISSION SUNDAY SCHOOL

This school is a tributary to First Baptist Church, Lethbridge. Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fozard have been in charge of the work for many years. Mr. Fozard, at the extreme right, is also a Deacon of First Church. The enrolment is 95, average attendance 75.

In addition to these five schools there is a new opportunity at Wallace, near Yorkton, where for some time the Rev. Don Carlson has conducted services in a school house, and where it is expected that a Baptist Church will be organized this coming summer.

To meet this challenge, the Baptist Union four years ago appointed as director of Church School and Young People's work, the Rev. T. B. McDormand, who during those years has worked tirelessly to "help the churches to help themselves," by organizing Teacher Training Institutes in every major centre every year; Young People's District



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**FLIN FLON SUNDAY SCHOOL,
MANITOBA**

This church is "built upon a rock"; it was impossible to excavate a full basement, so that though the back of the church is level with the ground, the front is eight or ten feet in the air; hence the necessity for stairs, as shown. The enrolment here is 80, average attendance 67.

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Conferences and Summer Camps, conferences with local church workers, the publication of a great many suggestions for Young People's local programmes, helping to supervise the Canadian Baptist Sunday School publications, and in many ways to make more effective our work with Western Canadian youth.

In recent years evangelism has been stressed in all our churches. With Union reorganization came the appointment of the Rev. J. A. McRae as Director of Evangelism. He, with a strong committee of which Dr. A. C. Archibald is Chairman, has arranged and conducted Evangelistic Institutes in many parts of our constituency, and has conducted numerous series of services. The committee's aim is "An Evangelistic Institute in every district and Evangelistic Services in every church."

An Unusual Home Mission Enterprise in British Columbia

Miss Ida Elliott and Miss Edith Spain have proved themselves to be excellent pioneer missionaries.

A few years ago the Chilliwack Baptist Church under its pastor, Rev. Jas. J. Smithson, undertook extension work by opening a mission at Whatcom Road and later took over a mission at Barrowton, both of which are situated between Chilliwack and Abbotsford. The work grew to such importance that Misses Spain and Elliott were sent there in July, 1939.

Besides carrying on regular preaching services and Sunday Schools in both places they accomplished much in the visitation of the many homes scattered throughout a large area. During July and August they conducted four Daily Vacation Bible Schools which were much appreciated not only by the children enrolled but also by the parents. In Huntingdon, where there had been no Sunday School for a year and a half, the children rallied well and the sustained interest was a source of joy to the missionaries. They write: "At



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**MISS EDITH SPAIN AND
MISS IDA ELLIOTT**

The only women Missionaries at
present serving in Western Canada.

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Ridgedale we were offered the community hall for work, and we were entertained at the home of one of B.C.'s isolated Baptists. There was some difficulty with unruly boys, but the seed was sown and three girls accepted Christ, and all seemed overjoyed in their newly found Saviour. The adults in the district were calloused and showed little concern for their own or their children's spiritual welfare."

In the same area there is a consolidated school, the primary teacher of which, a Baptist, is responsible for her 51 scholars for half an hour daily after school closes until the bus calls for them. With the consent of the principal the children march to the mission each Thursday for Bible instruction and singing, which is a grand opportunity to reach the little ones for Christ.

Another opening for work came in the hop fields in the district. Miss Spain writes: "There were some 2,600 pickers. The hall was used by the Indians but we secured permission to hold a class on the road side and dozens came. We sang hymns, told the Gospel story

and distributed literature in each cabin. Our hearts went out to those people who seem as sheep without a shepherd."

Toward the end of 1941 they were asked by the British Columbia Board to undertake work at Alberni, on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Here a church had been built by a Mr. J. T. Ross in the hope that religious services could be carried on. The building has been used by one or two different groups, and Mr. Ross recently appealed to our Baptist Board, with the result that Miss Spain and Miss Elliott started their work. So satisfactory have been the services of these young women that Mr. Ross has generously given the property to the B.C. Board. The President describes the building as "beautifully situated, artistically designed, fully equipped, almost new and without any debt." In addition to services at Alberni, our missionaries conduct a school at Port Alberni, about four miles down the inlet, where the response has been very gratifying.

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**WEST END SUNDAY SCHOOL,
PRINCE ALBERT, 1941**

The Hall has been enlarged and stuccoed; the picture shows Primary and Junior Departments. The enrolment is about 100.

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From time to time there have been godly men and women who having faith in our missionary enterprise, have written bequests to the Baptist Union into their wills. It has been the policy of the Union that such bequests be invested rather than spent. It was the gifts of those who had gone on before, that kept our work going through the difficult period, and will continue to keep it going for many years to come. There could be no better investment, and we respectfully recommend it to our friends. After consultation with Mr. E. J. Chambers, K.C., barrister, of Calgary, we suggest as the simplest form in which to write the bequest, the following:

"I GIVE AND BEQUEATH TO THE BAPTIST UNION OF
WESTERN CANADA, THE SUM OF \$

NAME"

Some Achievements

The past few years have seen some evidences of progress in widely scattered city centres.

Lethbridge

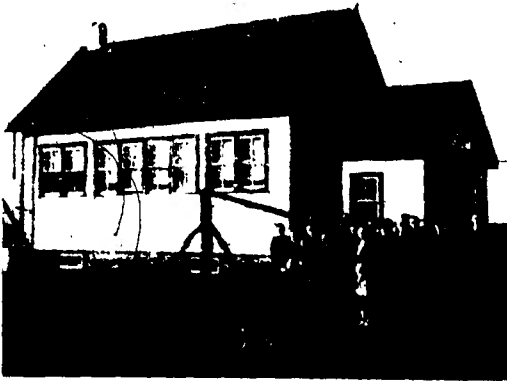
Under the energetic leadership of the Rev. Tom Frenns, the church which for some years had felt the need of a larger building, and had accumulated a building fund of about \$15,000, sold their old Church building and purchased the Presbyterian church made vacant by the Union. This is an imposing brick building in the centre of the city. After necessary alterations, which included the installation of a convenient and well placed baptistry, the Church became one of the finest Baptist buildings in Western Canada. The new Hymnary was introduced and the First Church, Lethbridge, took on new dignity and a larger sphere of usefulness, and now under the pastoral supervision of the Rev. G. V. Crofoot, is ministering effectively not only to the city but to the whole of Southern Alberta.

The North End Sunday School building has been completely renovated and Baptist influence has been greatly increased. Thus old established causes have taken on new activity and the future of our work in this part of our territory is full of promise.

New Westminster

The Rev. J. L. Sloat has crowned a long and successful pastorate at Olivet by leading his people in the completion of a spacious and beautiful church which is a credit to the denomination. The new

WALLACE SCHOOL HOUSE, NEAR YORKTON, SASK.



A regular preaching service is held here, and we hope soon to organize a Baptist Church.

church was dedicated by Dr. George W. Truett in 1938, and by the end of 1941 was entirely free from debt. The building includes a dignified and worshipful auditorium, and up to date Sunday School and social halls. Here again an historic cause has taken a decided step forward, and Mr. Sloat and his people have made a lasting contribution to the work of the denomination.

Nor is this all. Baptist work in the lower Fraser Valley, from Chilliwack to the Coast, is going forward by leaps and bounds. We

have already mentioned Westminster Heights, and now may speak of Upper Sumas and Barrowton, and the remodelling of the Edmonds church. The Rev. J. J. Smithson has played a large part in all these developments. The cause at Hastings East, Vancouver, has taken on new life and the church building has been enlarged. This, together with the construction of a new church building at Vancouver Heights and West Point Grey in the last decade, speaks well for the loyalty and enthusiasm of Vancouver Baptists.

The little group at Prince Rupert, far up on the British Columbia coast, caught the spirit and have addressed themselves to the complete renovation of their fine church.

Prince Albert

Here again there has been successful activity. The church building has been renovated, the whole front has been redesigned and pews installed. To the rear a new Sunday School hall, complete with basement, including washrooms, kitchen, and folding doors for classroom accommodation, has been added. The Rev. Gerald Ward is the much appreciated pastor here. The West End Mission, already mentioned, has been completed with full basement, and furnace, and the whole building stuccoed.

Many other church properties have been extensively repaired or remodelled. At Boissevain in Southern Manitoba, where the church for a number of years was inactive, the work has been reopened and negotiations are under way for the purchase of a church building.

In addition to the men and churches named above, strong pastoral leadership is given to our churches generally. Effective work is being carried on in all our city churches, and the devoted and persistent effort of our rural pastors among the scattered numbers of their flocks, is producing results.

Though we have given nine of our fully qualified pastors to the Chaplain Service or other branches of war work, we are blessed with as fine and devoted a group of pastors and missionaries as ever served the West.

The West is still needy, yet still full of promise. The building of our cosmopolitan population, with its many national groups, into Canadian citizenship, and the bringing of it all into the Kingdom of God is a challenge to our vision and our faith, and will tax all our resources both material and spiritual. We thank God that he has matched us with such a thrilling task in such stupendous times.

It is a far cry from that day in May, 1873, when Pioneer McDonald first set his foot in Winnipeg, as the first Baptist Missionary to the Canadian West; and we look forward with keen anticipation to the celebration of our Seventieth Anniversary in Winnipeg in 1943.

Looking back we see much of light and shadow, of ebb and flow, but we see the tide coming in. The more we do, the more there is to be done. The further we go, the wider becomes our horizon. Looking forward, we thank God and take courage.

Test Your Memory

1. What Swedish Baptist Church made the greatest improvement in its appearance during 1941?
2. Which Ukrainian Church brought an offering of beasts?
3. Where is the West's new Frontier?
4. Which Manitoba Church is "Built upon a rock"?
5. What will probably be the name of the next Baptist Church to be organized in the West?
6. Who gave a ready-made Church to the British Columbia Convention; and who were the Missionaries?
7. Which of the non-English Missionaries is publishing a new monthly paper?
8. Which small Manitoba town has three Baptist Churches?
9. Which Church has a twenty-piece band to lead the singing?
10. How many Western Baptist Pastors are working directly in the war effort?